



Attorney Docket No.: 60710 (70904)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT:** M. MATSUSHITA, et al.

**U.S.S.N.:** 10/766,777

**GROUP ART UNIT:** 2861

**FILED:** January 27, 2004

**EXAMINER:** A. T. N. Vo

**FOR:** IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This application is an RCE of prior U.S.S.N.: 10/766,777, filed on January 27, 2004. The following is in response to the final action mailed May 10, 2006 and the Advisory Action mailed June 30, 2006. Applicants kindly ask that the above-identified application be amended prior to examination as set forth herein. If for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate, or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

**Amendments to the specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.